

# Notice of Race

## RHYC Yacht & Cruiser Racing 2025

### ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The organising authority is the Royal Harwich Yacht Club.

### RULES

The events will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, the RYA Racing Charter principles and objectives, except as any of these are changed by this Notice of Race, or the Sailing Instructions.

The Bylaws of the Ipswich Port Authority and Harwich Haven Authority apply, as do the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea as between competitors and any vessel not racing. Any competitor found to have infringed these bylaws or regulations shall be liable to Protest [DP]

Any yacht which finds itself disabled or out of control within the Deep-Water Channel shall promptly advise Harwich VTS on VHF channel 71 or Ipswich Port Radio VHF channel 68 as applicable of its situation.

Any competing yacht which touches a moored or anchored boat shall retire immediately unless she claims that she was wrongly compelled to touch it by another competitor, in which case she shall protest. It shall report the boat hit (name and location) to the Race Officer in case there is any damage.

**ANCHORS SHALL BE STOWED INBOARD OF THE PULPIT AND GUARD RAILS WHILE RACING.**

Competitors in danger of obstructing or being involved in a collision with a commercial vessel may use their engines to keep clear. They must inform the Race Officer as soon as possible after finishing. In such case the Race Committee shall adjust the Competitor's elapsed time as it considers in its absolute discretion to be fair and equitable [DP]. This changes RRS Rule 42.1.

RRS Rule 44.1 is changed so that only one turn, including one tack and one gybe, is required.

In the event of conflict between this Notice of Race and the event Sailing Instructions then the event Sailing Instructions will prevail.

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

Where a race forms part of the "Combined Clubs Series", the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions of that series shall apply instead.

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

Yachts must be owned or skippered by an RHYC club member, except the Tuning Fork Race and Regatta Race, be single hulled and with a minimum waterline length of 5.2m (17ft).

Yachts not meeting the requirements set out immediately above may be accepted with special dispensation from the organising authority, who have the right to refuse any entry at its absolute discretion.

## **EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Yachts must meet the minimum standards laid out in the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Appendix B Special Regulations for Inshore Racing, which includes a functional engine with adequate fuel, and a marine VHF transceiver.

## **ENTRY FEES**

Entry is free to all competitors, unless set out in the Sailing Instructions.

## **SCHEDULE**

All RHYC club yacht races in 2025 as outlined and amended in the club diary. Any changes to the club diary will be dealt with in Sailing Instructions.

The planned events are:

Tuning Fork – 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Regatta Yacht Race 31<sup>st</sup> August

Sunk & Bell Races – 4<sup>th</sup> October

Separate NoR and SI's will apply to any yachts competing in the All in Race on 21<sup>st</sup> September.

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

The Sailing Instructions for each event will apply. These are available on the club website. It is the responsibility of the crew to be aware of these instructions and amendments. Any amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the club website and may be emailed to competitors.

## **THE COURSE**

Racing will take place in the Rivers Orwell and Stour, Harwich Harbour approaches and Dovercourt Bay.

## **SCORING**

The low points scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

## **HANDICAPS**

Yachts will race on the handicap system RORC/RYA YTC unless varied by the Sailing Instructions. A yacht's handicap shall not be grounds for redress. The 2025 RHYC Yacht Handicap Committee will assign a handicap to any yacht without a RORC/RYA YTC.

## **RISK STATEMENT**

Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a yacht's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- (a) they are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their yacht to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- (b) they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their yacht and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (c) they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions and omissions;
- (d) their yacht is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (e) provision of a race management team by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

The fact that the race committee may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this notice of race.

## **INSURANCE**

Each participating yacht shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £5,000,000 per event.

## **MEDIA RIGHTS**

Competitors and/or their Guardians automatically grant to the OA and any party to which it may delegate this right, without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show (including via the internet), any motion pictures, still pictures, live, taped or filmed television or any other form of media, of or relating to the event.

Updated 10/03/2025